

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. Apparatus for mapping out endoluminal gastrointestinal surgery, the
2 apparatus comprising:
3 an endoluminal support configured for endoluminal placement within a
4 gastrointestinal lumen; and
5 a marking device disposed on the support, the marking device configured to
6 submucosally mark the gastrointestinal lumen.

1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an approximation element
2 configured to approximate the support and a mucosal surface of the gastrointestinal lumen.

1 3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the approximation element is
2 disposed on the endoluminal support.

1 4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the approximation element
2 comprises an element chosen from the group consisting of suction ports, inflation elements
3 and combinations thereof.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the submucosal marking device
2 comprises needles configured to penetrate mucosal tissue.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the needles are configured to inject
2 marking elements submucosally.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the marking elements are chosen
2 from the group consisting of dyes, fluorescent dyes, colored dyes, saline, bulking agents,
3 collagen, spheres, nanospheres, magnetic materials, ferromagnetic materials, Curie point
4 materials, plastic materials, inert materials, radiopaque materials, bioresorbable materials and
5 combinations thereof.

1 8. Apparatus for mapping out endoluminal gastrointestinal surgery, the
2 apparatus comprising:
3 an endoluminal support configured for endoluminal placement within a gastrointestinal
4 lumen; and
5 a radiofrequency element on the support for marking the gastrointestinal
6 lumen.

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2 9. The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising an approximation element
3 configured to approximate an interior of the gastrointestinal lumen and the endoluminal
4 support.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the approximation element is
2 disposed on the endoluminal support.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the radiofrequency element
2 comprises at least one electrode, the at least one electrode disposed on a surface of the
3 endoluminal support and coupleable to a radiofrequency generator.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the approximation element
2 comprises an element chosen from the group consisting of suction ports, inflation elements
3 and combinations thereof.

1 13. Apparatus for mapping out endoluminal gastrointestinal surgery, the
2 apparatus comprising:
3 an endoluminal support configured for endoluminal placement within a
4 gastrointestinal lumen; and
5 a marking device disposed on the support for marking the gastrointestinal
6 lumen with pegs.

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2 14. The apparatus of claim 13 further comprising an approximation
3 element configured to approximate an interior of the gastrointestinal lumen and the
4 endoluminal support.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the approximating element is
2 disposed on the endoluminal support.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the marking device further
2 comprises surgical mesh.

1 17. Apparatus for mapping out endoluminal gastrointestinal surgery, the
2 apparatus comprising:

3 an endoluminal support configured for endoluminal placement within a
4 gastrointestinal lumen; and

5 indicia on the endoluminal support which are visible to provide a map of the
6 endoluminal gastric reduction when the endoluminal support is present in the gastrointestinal
7 lumen.

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2 18. The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising an approximation
3 element configured to approximate an interior of the gastrointestinal lumen and the
4 endoluminal support.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the approximating element is
2 disposed on the endoluminal support.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the indicia are chosen from the
2 group consisting of dimensions, shapes, colors, textures, and combinations thereof.

1 21. A method for mapping out endoluminal gastric reduction, the method
2 comprising:
3 advancing an endoluminal support into a patient's stomach; and
4 submucosally marking an interior of the stomach at at least one specified
5 location.

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2 22. The method of claim 21, wherein submucosally marking the interior
3 further comprises approximating the interior and the endoluminal support.

1 23. The method of claim 21, wherein submucosally marking the interior
2 further comprises submucosally injecting at least one marking element into a wall of the
3 stomach.

1 24. The method of claim 18, wherein submucosally marking the interior
2 further comprises submucosally marking the interior with at least one marking element
3 chosen from the group consisting of dye, bulking agents, spheres and combinations thereof.

1 25. A method for mapping out endoluminal gastric reduction, the method
2 comprising:
3 advancing a radiofrequency endoluminal support into a patient's stomach; and

4 exposing an interior of the stomach to radiofrequency energy from the support
5 at at least one specified location, wherein said exposure creates a visible marking.

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2 26. The method of claim 25 further comprising approximating the interior
3 of the stomach and the endoluminal support.

1 27. The method of claim 25, wherein exposing the interior to
2 radiofrequency energy comprises locally burning a mucosa layer of the interior of the
3 stomach.

1 28. A method for mapping out endoluminal gastric reduction, the method
2 comprising:
3 advancing an endoluminal support into a patient's stomach; and
4 marking an interior of the stomach at specified locations with at least one peg
5 delivered from the endoluminal support.

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2 29. The method of claim 28 further comprising approximating the interior
3 of the stomach and the endoluminal support.

1 30. The method of claim 28 further comprising marking the interior with
2 surgical mesh.

1 31. A method for mapping out endoluminal gastric reduction, the method
2 comprising:
3 advancing an endoluminal support into a patient's stomach; and
4 detecting indicia of the endoluminal support to map out endoluminal gastric
5 reduction.